REMARKS

Applicants request reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Independent Claim 2

Claim 2 recites performing the steps of searching, analyzing and displaying. These steps are performed WHILE receiving the abbreviated textual command instead of waiting until after the entire abbreviated textual command is received.

This is not disclosed by the cited references to Beauregard and Ramaswamy. Any search, analysis or display performed by the references is performed only AFTER the command is completely received. Therefore, claim 2 is patentable over the cited prior art.

Independent Claims 14 and 28

Claims 14 and 28 both recite a two-part command in which the first component is an executable command and the second part is a tag for use by that command.

This format is not disclosed or suggested by the cited references to Beauregard and Ramaswamy. In contrast to the claimed format, Beauregard teaches entering the executable operation as the first component and the tag as the second component (col. 47, line 4). Therefore, claims 14 and 28 are patentable over the cited prior art.

New Independent Claim 37

Claim 37 recites receiving a portion of an abbreviated textual command. It further recites comparing the received portion to a database to determine a probable subset of complete commands. This is done BEFORE receiving the entire abbreviated textual command.

The references to Beauregard and Ramaswamy do not suggest determining a complete command before an associated abbreviated command is finished being received. Therefore, claim 37 is patentable over the prior art.

New Independent Claim 46

Claim 46 recites receiving a textual command. The command includes a text component representing an operation, entered BEFORE a text component representing an object to be used in the operation. The components are separated by a delimiter. This format, exemplified in the application by "email John" and "e j", is more naturally acceptable to a user than alternative formats.
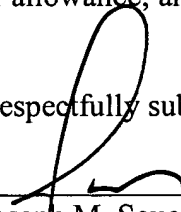
This format is not disclosed or suggested by the references to Beauregard and Ramaswamy. In fact, Beauregard teaches away from the claimed format by disclosing entering the operation only AFTER entering the object (col. 47, line 4). Therefore, claim 46 is patentable over the cited references.

Dependent Claims 3-13, 15-23, 29-32, 38-45 and 47

The remaining claims all depend from base claims that are explained above to be patentable over the prior art. The limitations that they add to the base claims distinguish them further from the prior art. Therefore, the dependent claims are also patentable.

The application should now be in condition for allowance, and allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Sauer (Reg. No. 47,919)
JONES DAY
901 Lakeside Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
(216) 586-7506

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